

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING AN AIRLINE VARIABLE ROUTED CAPACITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

A system and method for providing an airline variable routed capacity management system. With the system and method, a user, at time of booking, identifies only the departure and arrival airports, the dates of departure and return flights, and the travel window, i.e. the amount of travel time the user is willing to endure to travel between the departure and arrival airports, or vice versa. At time of booking, there is no blocking of travel lanes since there is no reservation of seat assignments or flights but only the guarantee that the airline will provide some flight itinerary between the departure and arrival airports that meets the travel window on the departure and return dates. The particular flights or seat assignments are not identified and are not reserved. At some time prior to the departure date, the user may again access the system of the present invention to obtain a listing of flight itineraries that meet the travel window on the dates and between the cities identified by user at booking. Based on the listing of possible flight itineraries, a user may select one of the flight itineraries and then obtain their seat and flight assignments based on the flight itinerary selected.